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METRO FIRE RADIO

Metro Fire Radio is a not-for-profit group of police officers, firefighters, emts, paramedics, press personnel, and radio enthusiasts who work towards a common goal of keeping our members and dedicated listeners informed of emergency incidents in the coverage area. We cover events such as fires, mva's, medivac jobs, major non-compromising police incidents, and other "points of interest" as it meets the needs of the press. Most members respond to the scenes and provide timely, detailed reports of the situation.

What is now Metro Fire Radio use to be called "Emergency Notification System". The first radio group in this area dating back approximately 15-18 years ago. Our repeater (which back in the day was 462.700 in Alpine), is still in Alpine but now operating on 452.175.

We charge only \$45.00 a year for membership dues wich include the use of Metro 1 (Alpine), Metro 2 (to be announced), Metro 3 (Hackensack), and Metro 4 (West Orange). We are the lowest priced radio group in the area.

Recently we made arrangements for reciprocities with the following groups: Firecom Radio in Monmouth County NJ, Hartford Citywide Radio in CT, Northwest Emergency Communications in Sussex County NJ, MARS in Eastern PA, and Jersey Coastal Alert Radio in Southern Bergen County NJ. We encourage the interaction and agreements with the other groups because we are not looking to benefit ourselves but the listeners which is what makes our group so unique.

Our web site, designed and launched in October of 2000 has been an awesome resource for our

area and obtaining members. If anyone would like more information, or would like an application, please visit <http://www.metrofireradio.com> or e-mail mfr301@aol.com.

You can listen to Metro Fire Radio on the following frequencies:

Metro Fire 1: 452.175 PL114.8
Transmitter Alpine, NJ
Receivers: Alpine and Hackensack, NJ

Metro Fire 2:
To be announced

Metro Fire 3: 463.650 PL146.2
Hackensack, NJ

Metro Fire 4: 451.825 PL77.0
West Orange, NJ (Eagle Rock)

BOX54 UPDATE

To All Members & Friends Of Box 54, Our web page is being updated on a day to day basis with new improvements and eye catchers always being added. Take a look at it now. Remember to stand back from your computer monitors because it can get hot and I would also recommend you turn your speaker volume down.

Please sign our guest book after viewing. Thanks
Bob

<http://www.angelfire.com/nj3/box54/index.html>

JERSEY COASTAL RADIO

Jersey Coastal Radio, another notification group can also provide some interesting listening. Joe, N2OAD passed along some details on their system. "I spoke with Paul H. last week. He confirmed the only frequency used for Jersey Coastal is **462.625** with the Main Ops. PL of 192.8. He said they are looking for members (Hams, Public Safety Personnel, etc.) to join. Their web site is <http://jces.org>

Joe also passes on this info...
 Here is a web site I found that maybe of interest to the group, It's a US Radio/TV search web page to give any information regarding Radio or TV transmitters including Location, Ant Pattern, Closest stations around a station, and can be searched by Call Letter, City/ST or Zip Code. The Web site is <http://www.globalcommnet.com/findsta.htm>
 TTL Joe N2OAD

NYDXA UNVEILS NEW WEB SITE!

<http://nydxa.4t.com>
 Now in it's 5th year "The Urban DX'er" adds another resource to compliment our weekly net. NYDXA *ONLINE* will feature a complete archive of our monthly newsletter as well as links to your favorite scanner resources. Over the next few weeks I'll also be adding selected pieces of software we mention on the net and here in The Urban DX'er. Links to my web page and Charlie N2NOV's page will also be included. These pages will "mirror" much of the information contained on NYDXA *ONLINE*.

If you have an idea to improve the site please E mail us share you ideas!
 Bob, WA2SQQ - Charlie, N2NOV

WESTWOOD,NJ UPDATE

John, KB2SGJ passes along this interesting info. "Found a new freq while searching for the elusive Westwood (NJ) "F-9". I just love the new 780xlt search capability. Linking search ranges AND selective CTCSS, oh boy!! Anyway, I have found **Hillsdale PD** using 159.21 (PL 71.9) as a F-2 channel. Also, the Scanner Master 6th edition lists **154.235 (PL 100)** as a Fire "talkaround" channel. I can confirm that the police use it as their "code channel" (alternate) with PL 156.7.

And the Westwood freq search goes on.....
 73 John KB2SGJ

TODD ASKS.....

I am interested in dtmf tones for the NJ medic channels or fire dept for specific companies..would you know any MICOM or CENCOM tones or how I can track them???
 thanks 73's
 Todd, k2atf
dcfd@earthlink.net

FEDERAL FREQUENCY RANGES

From time to time we get E mail asking where the

best frequencies are to receive traffic from federal agencies. Here's a list of the predictable frequencies. Always keep in mind that in "sensitivity" situations federal agencies can operate wherever they want!

To find active Federal Frequencies search these ranges.

- 25.3300-25.5500
- 26.4800-26.9500
- 27.4500-28.0000
- 29.8900-29.9100
- 30.0000-30.5600
- 32.0000-33.0000
- 34.0000-35.0000
- 36.0000-38.0000
- 39.0000-40.0000
- 40.0000-42.0000
- 46.0000-47.0000

For best results set step size at 12.5 kHz.

- 137.0000-144.0000
- 148.0000-150.0000
- 162.0000-173.0000
- 173.4000-174.0000
- 225.0000-400.0000
- 406.1000-420.0000

- 137.0000-144.0000 Military
- 148.0000-150.0000 Military
- 162.0000-406.0000 Most non Military.

Note: Keep the search limits at 1 or 2 on MHz VHF and try 5 MHz on UHF. Repeat the search for at least 3 times for each range. Length: Search for at least two days. Times: Monitor in the night and early morning. Most morning communications occur between 7:00 and 9:00. Night monitoring can occur at any time.

Most activity will occur late at night. Listen to them "dance around the issue". Good luck, happy monitoring.

DX WORLD WEB SITE

<http://dxworld.com/>
 Looking for a one stop web site to meet you radio listening hobby needs? This site comes pretty close. It offers updated news and information on many aspects of the hobby. Whether its amateur radio, UTE, or broadcast band DX'ing there's something there for everyone.

HURRICANE SEASON 2001

www.hurricanefrequencies.com

After suddenly disappearing Bill Snyder's famous Hurricane frequency has reappeared with a totally new fresh look. Much of the information has been updated. As we sit here recovering from a killer snow storm I would suggest book marking this for future reference.

ART BELL RETURNS TO NY RADIO

As mysteriously as he left, Art Bell popular radio night owl returns to the NY air waves. Listeners to Bell on NY's WABC Talk Radio 77 will only hear three (2-5 a.m.) of the five hour broadcast. Negotiations went down to the wire as Bell originally wanted a four hour slot.

Bell broadcasts from her desert home in Parhump, NV, also know as the home of the famous brothel, "The Chicken Ranch."

Bell also requested that his show carry half the commercials that would normally be inserted. At this time it has not been disclosed if WABC will use its controversial "Cashbox" digital time compression box to cram more commercials into Bell's show than the network format allows.

At this time Bell can be heard on the following stations which can generally be heard from the NY metro area in the evening hours.

800 CKLW Windsor Ontario Canada
 810 WGY Schenectady, NY
 890 WLS Chicago, IL
 900 CHML Ontario Canada
 930 WBEN Buffalo, NY
 960 WELI Hamden - New Haven, CT
 1100 WTAM
 1210 Philadelphia, PA

BC-780XLT LIVE ONLINE

Justin, KC2GIK passes along this neat site where someone has their new Trunk Tracker III running live on line on the Boston PD system. To access the site you'll need Microsoft Media Player 7. Check it out at <http://johnster.ne.mediaone.net/bosscan.aspx>

ONLINE MOTOROLA TRUNKING COURSE

http://www.motorola-wls.com/CW_ACS002/cbt/course.htm

Confused about trunking technology? Looking for some free info to learn at your own pace? Here's an interesting site that's a must for new comers to the

trunking technology.

NEW FDNY RADIOS ISSUED

The new UHF HT's are being issued to field units as I write this. Keep your ears open on the FDNY base frequencies for instructions over the next few weeks. The dispatchers will be instructing field units to unpack, charge, test and put them inservice.

These UHF digital units are going to replace the current fireground units that currently operate on 153.3800 mhz no pl.

The digital units signal may not be received on our conventional and trunk tracking scanners, amateur radio and other commercial transceivers. For a list of FDNY UHF frequencies check out Charles Hargrove's (N2NOV) website: <http://www.n2nov.net>

Regards,
 Joe Walc, K2JA

Stop the Press.....

This just in.... via Warren Silverman, N2RAH

The new handy-talkies (Motorola XTS-3500R) are going into service the first week of March 2001. There are 2 types, model 1 (for engines, ladders, battalions, and special units) and model 3 (for division chiefs and above).

The major difference between the two is that the model 3 radios will have 3 zones, A, B, and C, and model 1 radios will not have an LCD display nor will they be able to go to any zone but "A". However, battalions and units in SOC will have 3-zone capability.

Aside from the fact that these radios will use UHF, the major advantages over the Sabers and MX330's are the additional channels for secondary or adjacent incidents, and additional command channels. Under the old system there was only 1 fireground frequency and 4 tactical frequencies. Now there will be 2 fireground channels each with it's own command channel.

Here is the channel plan as it is now:

ZONE "A" Models 1 and 3 - Fireground and Repeaters

Ch 1	HT 1 Fireground	Simplex
Ch 2	HT 2 Fireground	Simplex
Ch 3	HT 3 Fireground	Simplex
Ch 4	Queens Fireground	Simplex

Ch 5 Brooklyn Fireground Simplex
 Ch 6 Manhattan Fireground Simplex
 Ch 7 Bronx Fireground Simplex
 Ch 8 Staten Island Fireground Simplex
 Ch 9 Hi-rise In-Building Repeater
 Ch 10 Battalion Mobile Repeater
 Ch 11 Subway Repeater 1
 Ch 12 Subway Repeater 2
 Ch 13 EMS/Fire Fireground
 Ch 14 Railroad Repeater
 Ch 15 Unassigned
 Ch 16 Unassigned

Channel 1 is designated as the primary tactical channel. All units will use it in the same way we used 153.88 in the VHF system. Should a second incident occur nearby those units will use channel 3 as their primary tactical channel.

If the incident on channel 1 escalates the staff chief on scene will use channel 2 as a command channel. If the incident on channel 3 escalates that chief in charge will use either channels 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 depending on the borough.

ZONE "B" - Inter-agency and Select Communications

Ch 1 Interoperability - Citywide
 Ch 2 Interoperability - Manhattan
 Ch 3 Interoperability - Queens
 Ch 4 Interoperability - Brooklyn
 Ch 5 Interoperability - Bronx
 Ch 6 Interoperability - Staten Island
 Ch 7 Not yet assigned
 Ch 8 Not yet assigned
 Ch 9 Not yet assigned
 Ch 10 Not yet assigned
 Ch 11 Not yet assigned
 Ch 12 Not yet assigned
 Ch 13 Not yet assigned
 Ch 14 Not yet assigned
 Ch 15 Not yet assigned
 Ch 16 Not yet assigned

ZONE "C" - Dispatch Communications

Ch 1 Not yet assigned
 Ch 2 Not yet assigned
 Ch 3 Not yet assigned
 Ch 4 Not yet assigned
 Ch 5 Not yet assigned
 Ch 6 Not yet assigned
 Ch 7 Not yet assigned
 Ch 8 Not yet assigned

Ch 9 Not yet assigned
 Ch 10 Not yet assigned
 Ch 11 Not yet assigned
 Ch 12 Not yet assigned
 Ch 13 Not yet assigned
 Ch 14 Not yet assigned
 Ch 15 Not yet assigned
 Ch 16 Not yet assigned

To my knowledge there are no guidelines at this time governing the use of zone B. In my opinion it looks like it will be at least a year before dispatch (future zone C) is converted over.

I regret that I do not have the actual frequencies for these channels at this time. But since these are digital radios it really doesn't make a difference. . . yet. Notwithstanding that, as soon as I learn the frequencies I'll post them here.

Frank Raffa
 Supv. Dispatcher, FDNY
<http://www.FDNewYork.com>

NJTPK & OTHER WEATHER FREQ's

Just a reminder that during inclement weather the NJ Turnpike announces road conditions and weather forecasts on **159.180 MHz**. I also saw a post on one E mail list that Hudson County OEM is active **453.850** using dpl 023. The national tac channel is active **866.5125** PL 156.7 .

GREAT SHORT WAVE SITE

Dave, WI2Q passes this great page along. Have you ever tried to hear some SW stations only to find that the list you are using is either expired or inaccurate? This doesn't seem to be th case with this page! My own personal experience with this page is running about 90% accurate! Try it!
<http://daniel-sampson.tripod.com/shortwave/time.html>

The Urban DX'er would like to thank all those who contributed to this months issue!

Charlie - N2NOV, "R" from Bridgeport, CT,
 "MFR301" & Metro Fire Radio, Joe Walc - K2JA ,
 Warren Silverman - N2RAH,